



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 25, 2005

Contact: Luis Monteagudo Jr. (619) 595-4627

MIKEL HAAS NAMED REGISTRAR OF VOTERS *Former Registrar to replace retiring Sally McPherson*

County Chief Administrative Officer Walt Ekard today announced that he has appointed Mikel D. Haas as the County's new Registrar of Voters. His first day in the office will be March 22.

Haas is replacing Registrar Sally McPherson, who recently announced her retirement.

Haas has been Director of Animal Services since July 2001. Haas previously served as the Registrar of Voters from December 1995 to July 2001. Haas also previously served five years as the deputy director in the San Diego City Clerk's office, where he oversaw municipal elections.

From April to December 2004, Haas acted as a Special Policy Advisor to Ekard, overseeing the County's efforts related to certification and use of both paper-based and electronic voting systems for future elections, as well as the preparations for the Nov. 2004 presidential general election.

With McPherson's retirement, Haas expressed his willingness to again take the helm of the Office of the Registrar of Voters.

"Seems like a timely and natural fit," Haas said.

Haas recognized evolving technologies and complex new laws have made the job of running elections a more demanding process, Ekard said.

"Mikel did an outstanding job as Animal Services director, but I think he is the right person to take on this new challenge," Ekard said. "We believe his broad election experience -- including his past service as Registrar and his more recent involvement in elections over the past year -- make him the ideal candidate for the job. "

Haas also previously served as the Assistant Registrar of Voters, Elections Officer for the City of San Diego and Acting Director of the County Community and Housing Development Department.

###

MEDIA & PUBLIC RELATIONS
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 208 • SAN DIEGO, CA 92101



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 25, 2005



MEDIA & PUBLIC RELATIONS
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 208 • SAN DIEGO, CA 92101